



DNRP GIS TECH TIP: King County Imagery

King County GIS users have a number of image sources to choose from. **Users should note that these imagery datasets have special use restrictions, which do not allow distribution of the digital data files without prior authorization of the source agency or vendor. This includes restrictions against providing digital data files to non-King County agencies and consultants working under contract with King County.** Use of imagery in paper maps and internet posting (in an Adobe pdf file of an ArcView layout, for example) is not covered by these restrictions. For more information on use restrictions, contact [King County GIS Center Data Acquisitions](#) staff.

Choosing which dataset to use in your ArcView project will be based on a number of factors such as:

- **Geographic Extent of Data.** Most imagery available does not cover the entire county, so you will have to choose from among those that cover your area of interest.
- **Date of Data.** Until recently, the standard imagery commonly used was either the NIES or WA DNR imagery. Now that newer imagery is available, you may wish to adopt this imagery as a standard.
- **Data Resolution.** Higher detail mapping tasks may require imagery of higher resolution.
- **Project Purpose.** Although most of the older imagery has only one color option, the newest data has two or even three options to choose from. For most map display purposes, users should choose either the natural color or B/W options. However, users with ArcView Image Analyst who have image analysis or multi-band display needs may wish to use the multispectral or color infrared options.
- **File Type.** King County imagery comes in a variety of file types: .tif, .bil, and .img. Although ArcView fully supports .tif & .bil types, only AV3.2a users (with the IMAGINE Image Support extension loaded) will be able to access .img file types.

The easiest way to use imagery in your ArcView project is to use AVLib, an ArcView extension created by the King County GIS Center. For WLRD users, this extension has already been loaded onto the network version of ArcView available to WLRD GIS users. For more information about using this extension (or obtaining it for use with your local copy ArcView) please see the AVLib documentation in the [King County GIS Center Knowledge Base](#) (http://www.metrokc.gov/gis/services/KnowledgeBase/AvLib_UserGuide.htm).

King County GIS Center Data Warehouse Imagery (\\wildfire\\plibrary2\\images)

Dataset	Date of Data	Data Resolution	Color Option	Geographic Extent of Data	Index Available?	Available Formats	File Type
USGS Quads	Varies	N/A	Color	Greater King County	No	Mr. SID (quad_maps)	.sid, .tif
Seattle	1993	1 foot	Natural Color	Most of Seattle	No	Catalog (sea_cat)	.bil
Redmond	1995	1 foot	Natural Color	City of Redmond	No	Catalog (red_cat)	.tif
NIES	1996	1 meter	Natural Color	Mostly Western King County	Yes	Catalog (nies_cat)	.tif
WA DNR	1998	1 meter	B/W	Most of King County	No	Mr. SID (dnrkcnty)	.sid
DAIS	2000	0.5 meter	Natural Color	Vashon Island	Yes, idxpdais	Catalog (dais_nat)	.tif
DAIS	2000	0.5 meter	CIR	Vashon Island	Yes, idxpdais	Catalog (dias_cir)	.tif
DAIS	2000	0.5 meter	MS	Vashon Island	Yes, idxpdais	Catalog (dais_msimg)	.img
Emerge	2000	2 foot	Derived Natural Color	Western King County, SW Snohomish County	Yes, idxpemer	Catalog (emerge_nat) MrSid (emerge_nat)	.tif, .sid
Emerge	2000	2 foot	CIR	Western King County, SW Snohomish County	Yes, idxpemer	Catalog (emerge_cir)	.tif
Ikonos	2000	1 meter	B/W (Pan)	Eastern King County	Yes, idxpikon	Catalog (ikonos_panbil)	.bil
Ikonos	2000	4 meter	Natural Color	Eastern King County	Yes, idxpikon	Catalog (ikonos_natimg)	.img
Ikonos	2000	4 meter	MS	Eastern King County	Yes, idxpikoo	Catalog (ikonos_msimg)	.img

KEY TO COLOR OPTION CODES:

B/W = Black & white

CIR = Color infrared, 3 band (near infrared-red-green)

Derived Natural Color = Derived color (no blue band), 3 band (near infrared-red-green)

MS = Multispectral, 4 band (near infrared-red-green-blue)

Natural Color = Full color, 3-band (red-green-blue)

TECHNICAL RESOURCES

For more information about using imagery, consult other DNRP GIS Tech Tips on imagery found in the "Images" folder on the [GIS Tech Tips \(http://dnr-web.metrokc.gov/dnrtech/gis/tips/Techtips.htm\)](http://dnr-web.metrokc.gov/dnrtech/gis/tips/Techtips.htm) intranet page.